


# USING DATA TO SIZE & SCOPE THE ISSUE OF YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

CASE STUDY | “COUNT US IN” KING COUNTY

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NAEH Conference on Ending Family & Youth Homelessness  
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## PAST YOUTH COUNT EFFORTS

- Peace for the Streets by Kids from the Streets “squatters count” – 2002
  - Homeless youth & young adult (YYA) “slumber party” sites as part of our Point In Time count
  - “Count Us In” homeless & unstably housed YYA count
  - Youth Count! pilot
- 

# Are you...

- ☐ UNSURE WHERE YOU WILL SLEEP TONIGHT?
- ☐ COUCH SURFING?
- ☐ HOMELESS?

**COME & BE COUNTED!**

THURS  
JAN  
24



# COUNT US IN AT A GLANCE

Who	Unstably housed & homeless young people ages 12 – 25
What	One-page surveys & data from HMIS
Where	Public areas, libraries, community centers & homeless YYA programs.
When	One 24-hour period corresponding with King County's annual point in time count
Why	How many young people are homeless? Are we making any progress?





## Youth & Young Adult (age 12 – 25) Housing Survey

Survey Location:

Have you already taken this survey today? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Transgender ☐ Other

Race/ Ethnicity (check all that apply):

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native    | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian           | <input type="checkbox"/> African American/ Black |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian/White | <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other                            |  |  |

Sexual Orientation: ☐ Straight ☐ Lesbian or Gay ☐ Bisexual ☐ I don't know/questioning ☐ Refused

Where did you stay last night? (Check One)

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> With my parent(s) indoors   | <input type="checkbox"/> In my own apartment/house           | <input type="checkbox"/> Foster home        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> With my friend(s) indoors   | <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned/foreclosed building/squat | <input type="checkbox"/> Jail/juv detention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> With my relative(s) indoors | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol treatment center       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional Living Program         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/motel        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Car/RV                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Outside/Tent       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                |  |   |

How long have you lived where you stayed last night? \_\_\_\_\_

**How long have you lived where you stayed last night?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Can you live where you stayed last night for the next month?** ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ I Don't Know

**Where did you live in the last 3 months? (Check all that apply)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> With my parent(s) indoors   | <input type="checkbox"/> In my own apartment/house           | <input type="checkbox"/> Foster home        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> With my friend(s) indoors   | <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned/foreclosed building/squat | <input type="checkbox"/> Jail/juv detention |
| <input type="checkbox"/> With my relative(s) indoors | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol treatment center       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional living program         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hotel/motel        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Car/RV                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Outside/Tent       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                |  |   |

**Are you *currently* without a stable place to sleep at night?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Have you ever *in the past* been without a stable place to sleep at night?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**What is the last grade you completed?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Are you currently enrolled in school?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Do you have a job?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Are you currently looking for a job?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Have you ever been in foster care?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

**Have you ever been to detention or jail?**

☐ Yes ☐ No

# 2013 COUNT US IN PARTNERS: WHO'S COUNTING?

Asian Counseling & Referral Service

Atlantic Street Center

Auburn Youth Resources

City of Seattle Parks & Recreation

Consejo Counseling & Referral  
Services

Friends of Youth

King County Public Library

King County School Districts

Lifelong AIDS Alliance

NeighborCare Health – 45<sup>th</sup> Street  
Youth Clinic

New Horizons Ministries

Peace for the Streets by Kids from the  
Streets

POCAAN/CURB

Renton YouthSource

ROOTS Young Adult Shelter

Seattle Public Library

Street Youth Ministries

Teen Feed

Therapeutic Health Services

Union Gospel Mission

YMCA Young Adult Services

YouthCare – Orion Center

# PRELIMINARY COUNT US IN DATA

In King County, 776  
youth and young  
adults age 12 – 25  
were counted as  
homeless or  
unstably housed on  
January 24, 2013

447 were staying in  
shelter or  
transitional housing  
programs

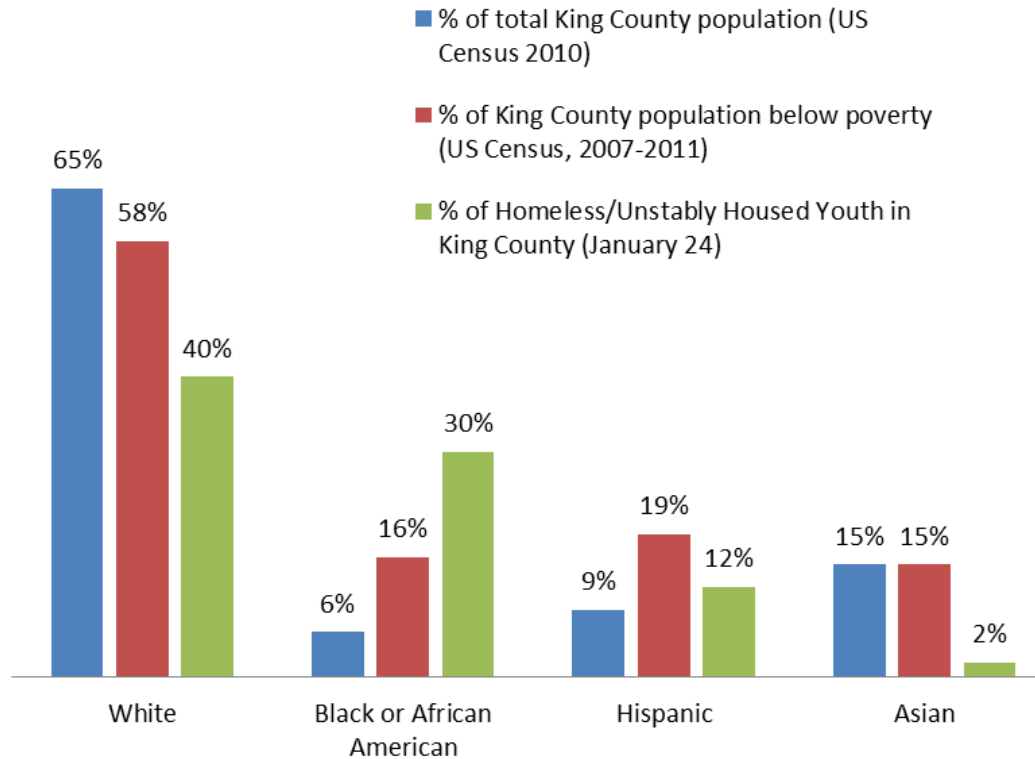
114 were unsheltered

215 were unstably  
housed



# PRELIMINARY COUNT US IN DATA (CONT'D)

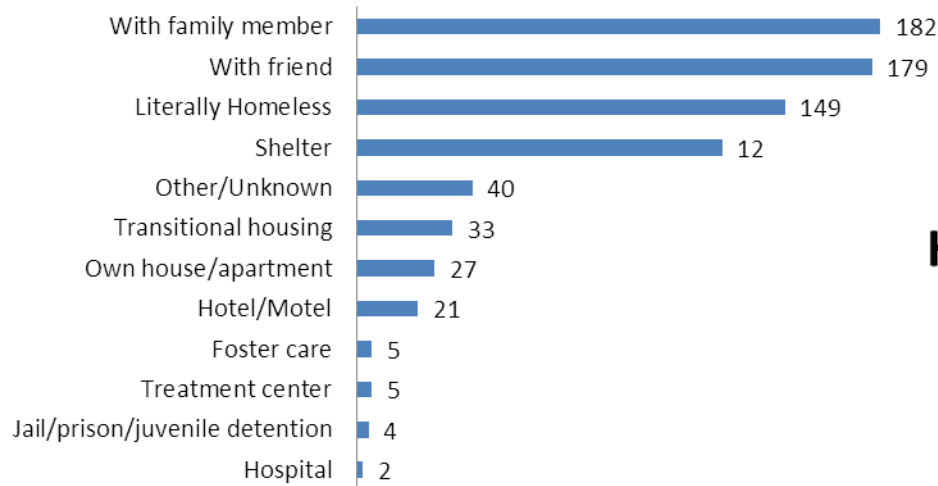
People of color experience poverty and homelessness at rates disproportionate to their representation in the total population in King County.



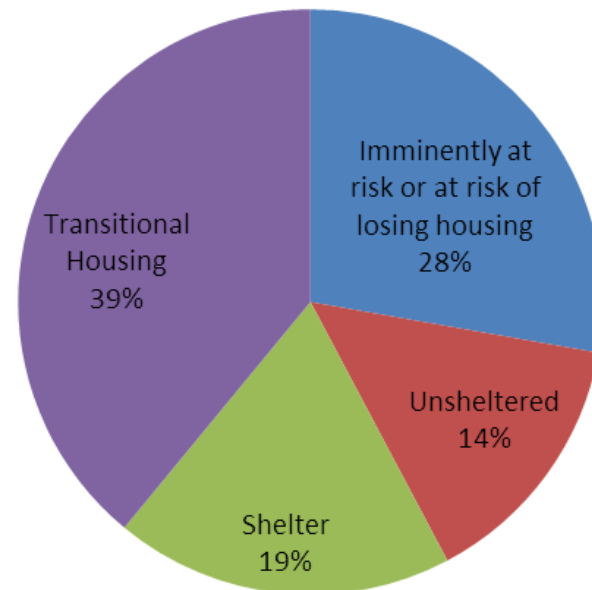
# PRELIMINARY COUNT US IN DATA (CONT'D)

## Place slept before survey or program entry

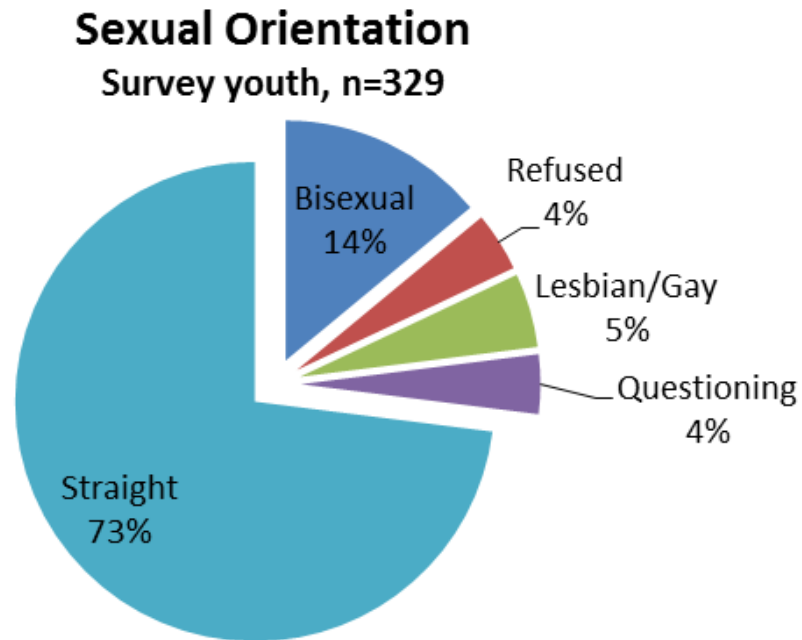
■ Number of Youth or Young Adults




## Housing Status of Youth and Young Adults, 1/24/13. n=776

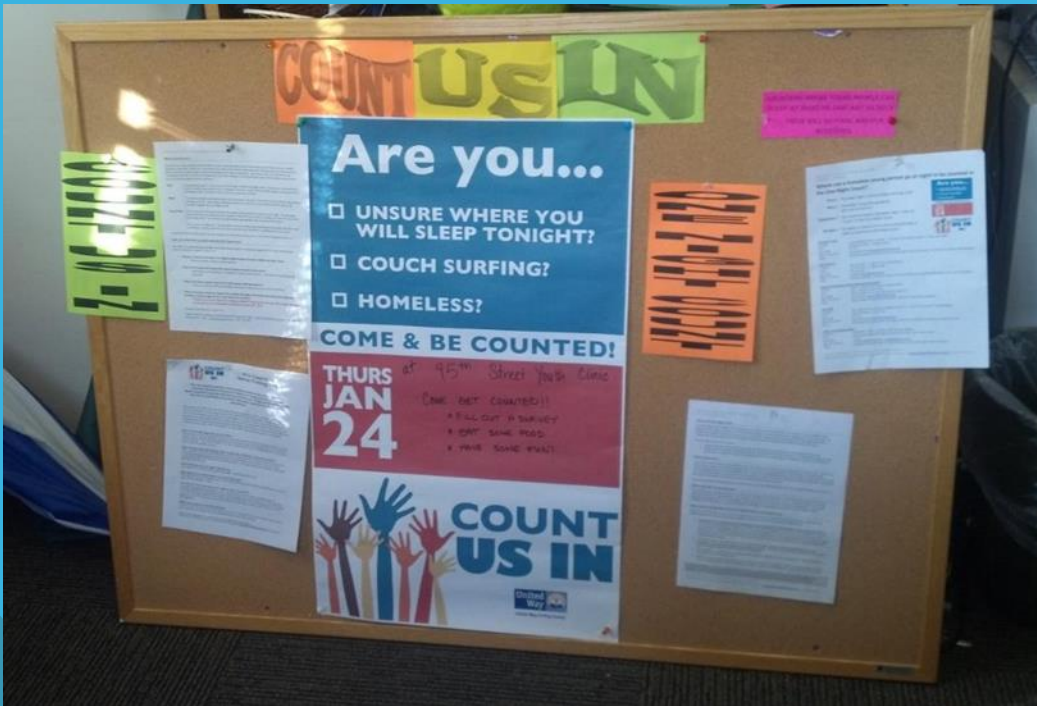


# PRELIMINARY COUNT US IN DATA (CONT'D)



# BEST PRACTICES FOR OTHER COMMUNITIES

- THINK BEYOND HOMELESS YYA
  - KEEP IT SIMPLE! ONE PAGE SURVEY
  - INTENTIONALLY INVOLVE YOUNG PEOPLE
  - FLEXIBILITY & FUNDING TO REACH YOUTH
  - LIBRARIES AS KEY PARTNERS
  - INVOLVEMENT OF SCHOOL DISTRICTS
  - MESSAGING THE RESULTS
- 



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